



Stepping Stones

The Historic Home of Bill and Lois Wilson

*During the first 23 years of marriage
Bill and Lois moved 51 times!
(by Lois' count)*

*In 1941, Bill and Lois Wilson bought
their first and only real home in
Bedford Hills, New York.*

*Before deciding to purchase their
home, Lois and Bill were in the
neighborhood and drove with
friends to look at the house.*

*Lois recounted, "We were charmed by
it's location and wanted to see the
interior. A window was unlocked
and we clambered in." (1)*

*We were told by a tour guide that
Bill's version was more like
'We broke in through the window!'*



(1) Lois Remembers, (B-7) p. 133



*They first called their home
“Bi-Lo’s Break”. The house had 7 rooms
and was located on 1.7 acres.
Their contract called for forty dollars
a month on a \$6,500 selling price.*

*Because of the constant climbing up and
down the rugged stone steps from the
house to the garage, they changed the name
to “Stepping Stones”. This also implied the
connection with the Twelve Steps.*





Bill built a writing studio on their property around 1948. He referred to the studio as “the shack”, but Lois called it “Wit’s End”. Our tour guide shared one story behind “Wit’s End”. Lois didn’t want to disturb Bill when he was writing, so if an A.A. member came to see Bill, she might tell Bill that the member was at their wit’s end!

We were allowed to sit at the famous desk where Bill wrote much of the book Alcoholics Anonymous. Cigarette burns can be seen on the top rim of the desk where Bill forgot he placed them!

The World Service Conference (WSC) was attended by several Delegates who are at the younger end of our membership. Stephanie (New Mexico/El Paso Delegate) was indeed inspiring! Being a new mom didn’t stop her from participating in all of the WSC activities! Stephanie’s sweet darlin’ was loved by many Al-Amoms!





The amount of pictures, souvenirs, mementos, framed documents and books preserved was overwhelming! Lois took the time to label everything so visitors would know what they were looking at.



A Delegate shared this before going to Stepping Stones.



“I expect to feel at home, just like I did at my first Al-Anon meeting.”

And indeed it did feel like home! Everything in the home belonged to Bill and Lois, and was painstakingly arranged by Lois.



Lois created the Stepping Stones Foundation, Inc. in 1979. The Foundation is a registered non-profit organization which is not owned by A. A. or Al-Anon.

Stepping Stones was listed as a Historic Landmark in 2012. For information about the 67th Annual Picnic and more, see steppingstones.org.